

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows --

1 1. (currently amended) A pyrotechnic initiator
2 comprising:
3 an electrically energizable initiator bridge composed of
4 a metal; and
5 a reactive layer on said electrically energizable
6 initiator bridge for liberation of energy upon electrical
7 energization of said bridge, said reactive layer being comprised of
8 a ~~combustible metal or a~~ metal capable of liberating energy by
A2 9 alloying with a the metal of said electrically energizable
10 initiator bridge.

1 2. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator defined
2 in claim 1 wherein said reactive layer is applied to said
3 electrically energizable initiator bridge in the form of a streak
4 or spaced apart islets.

1 3. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator defined
2 in claim 2, further comprising a thin electrically insulating layer
3 between said electrically energizable initiator bridge and said
4 reactive layer.

1 4. (original) The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim
2 3 wherein said electrically insulating layer is an oxide or nitride
3 of a metal of the reactive layer.

4 5. (cancelled)

5 6. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator
6 defined in claim 4 wherein said reactive layer is comprised of a
7 ~~combustible~~ metal selected from the group which consists of
8 titanium, hafnium, niobium, tantalum, aluminum and nickel.

1 7. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator
2 defined in claim 1 wherein said electrically energizable initiator
3 bridge is composed of at least one metal selected from the group
4 which consists of gold and palladium, and said reactive layer
5 comprises nickel.

1 8. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator
2 defined in claim 7, further comprising an ignition promotor in a
3 region of said electrically energizable initiator bridge and said
4 reactive layer.

1 9. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator
2 defined in claim 1 wherein the electrically energizable initiator
3 bridge is composed of at least one metal selected from the group of
4 platinum and other platinum-group metals, and the reactive layer
5 comprises aluminum.

6 10. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator
7 defined in claim 1, further comprising a thin electrically
8 insulating layer between said electrically energizable initiator
9 bridge and said reactive layer.

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1 11. (original) The pyrotechnic initiator defined in
2 claim 10 wherein said electrically insulating layer is an oxide or
3 nitride of a metal of the reactive layer.

1 12. (cancelled)

2 13. (currently amended) The pyrotechnic initiator
3 defined in claim 1 wherein said reactive layer is comprised of a
4 ~~combustible~~ metal selected from the group which consists of
5 titanium, hafnium, niobium, tantalum, aluminum and nickel.

1 14. (currently amended) A method of making a pyrotechnic
2 initiator, comprising the steps of:

3 applying to an electrically energizable initiator bridge
4 composed of at least one metal a reactive layer for liberation of
5 energy upon electrical energization of said electrically
6 energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer being comprised
7 of a ~~combustible metal or a~~ metal capable of liberating energy by
8 alloying with ~~a~~ the metal of said electrically energizable
9 initiator bridge; and

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cont 10 forming the metal of the reactive layer by dispersing a
11 metal of the reactive layer in a resin, printing the resin
12 containing the dispersed metal of the reactive layer onto the
13 electrically energizable initiator bridge, drying the printed resin
14 and sintering the metal of said reactive layer, thereby bonding the
15 metal of the reactive layer to said electrically energizable
16 initiator bridge.

1 15. (original) The method defined in claim 14 wherein a
2 less noble metal is dispersed in said resin and after printing by
3 screen printing is sintered in a reducing atmosphere and thereafter
4 a more noble metal is applied to the less noble metal by vapor
5 deposition or sputtering.

1 16. (original) The method defined in claim 14 wherein
2 initially a more noble metal is dispersed in said resin and after
3 printing by screen printing is sintered and thereafter a less noble
4 metal is applied by screen printing in a resin and is sintered at a
5 reduced temperature in a protective gas atmosphere.

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1 17. (new) A method of making a pyrotechnic initiator
2 comprising the steps of:
3 forming an electrically energizable initiator bridge of
4 at least one metal;
5 applying another metal by electrolysis to said bridge;
6 and
7 dispersing at least one ignition promoting metal selected
8 from the group which consists of zirconium, hafnium, tantalum and
9 niobium in an electrolysis solution with said other metal for
10 deposition by said electrolysis with said other metal on said
11 bridge.
